

REMARKS

In this response, no claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-56 remain pending.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the brief telephone conference of April 23, 2008. Claim 1, last paragraph, was discussed with respect primarily to Kail, but also to the prior art of record in general. Applicant proposed amending claim 1 and all other independent claims to recite "two or more local nodes" (note that independent claim 46 already recites this phrase). In this conference, Applicant briefly summarized the arguments already of record with respect to Kail. The Examiner kindly did a quick initial search and called later the same day to state that no art was found in this initial search that would be used to reject the independent claims if amended in this way.

Accordingly, Applicant files this paper with an RCE to make amendments above to the claims as was proposed in the telephone conference. Applicant is greatly appreciative of the assistance by the Examiner.

Applicant understands that a final search will be done after the filing of this RCE. Applicant requests a telephone interview if the Examiner believes that he has found any art of relevance to the above amendments.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this filing, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2638. If an extension of time is required, this should be considered a petition therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

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